

TERRY E. BRANSTAD GOVERNOR OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR KIM REYNOLDS

LT. GOVERNOR

June 20, 2013

The Honorable Matt Schultz Secretary of State of Iowa State Capitol Des Moines, Iowa 50319

Dear Mr. Secretary:

I hereby transmit Senate File 452, an Act relating to state and local finances by making appropriations, providing for fees, providing for legal responsibilities, providing for certain employee benefits, and providing for properly related matters, and including penalties and effective date and retroactive and other applicability provisions.

Senate File 452 is approved on this date with the following exceptions, which I hereby disapprove.

I am unable to approve the item designated as Section 30 in its entirety. This item allocates \$200,000 for the chronic care consortium. The strategic planning work is duplicative of efforts already taking place within Medicaid. Additionally, the revenue from the Clinical Health Coach training program will eventually allow the Iowa Chronic Care Consortium Board to become a self-sustaining enterprise.

I am unable to approve the item designated as Section 31 in its entirety. This language restricts the Department from fulfilling its mission. It is not appropriate to direct departments to treat employees differently solely based on an employee's classification. Additionally, departments are best equipped to manage their own budgets. This does not affect the \$1.7 million appropriation approved in Senate File 447.

I am unable to approve the item designated as Section 32 in its entirety. This language unnecessarily restricts the Department from fulfilling its mission. It is not appropriate to direct departments to treat employees differently solely based on an employee's classification. Additionally, departments are best equipped to manage their own budgets. This does not affect the \$850,000 approved in Senate File 447.

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I am unable to approve the item designated as Section 33 in its entirety. This language unnecessarily restricts the Department from fulfilling its mission. It is not appropriate to direct departments to treat employees differently solely based on an employee's classification. Additionally, departments are best equipped to manage their own budgets. This does not affect the \$2,571,309 approved in Senate File 447.

I am unable to approve the item designated as Section 34 in its entirety. This language unnecessarily restricts the Department from fulfilling its mission. It is not appropriate to direct departments to treat employees differently solely based on an employee's classification. Additionally, departments are best equipped to manage their own budgets. This does not affect the \$1,285,655 approved in Senate File 447.

I am unable to approve the item designated as Division XI in its entirety. This item increases the annual tax credit cap on the Historical Preservation and Cultural and Entertainment District Tax Credits. Currently, there is an Executive Order 80 Stakeholder group reviewing this tax credit program. It is my plan to approach Historical Preservation tax credits in a comprehensive and thoughtful manner. As such, I look forward to continuing to work with members of the House and Senate as this program is reviewed.

I am unable to approve the item designated as Division XXI in its entirety. This language is an attempt to provide financial relief to certain private providers of services to students related to compliance with special and general education billing requirements. The nature of the issue centers on what is and is not allowable as an educational expense in these facilities. This item would legalize what are currently non-permissive expenditures for educational funding to include a long list of expenditures that are non-educational, including expenditures related to administration, facilities, and mental health costs. This would cause an expansion of allowable expenditures and many of these facilities were complying with current law and therefore not billing for these expenses; therefore, the State would see an increase in spending as a result of these provisions. Due to the fact many school districts already operate at a deficit related to education expenditures, this increase would be directly passed on to local property taxes.

I am unable to approve the designated portion of the item designated as Section 182. Currently, the State passes federal funds through to the counties. This item requires the State to cover any reduction of funds for the counties should the federal government fail to live up to its funding promises. The federal government has not passed a budget in more than four years and has amassed more than \$16 trillion in debt. I believe the federal financial picture is unsustainable in the long-term, and, therefore, obligating State taxpayer funds in such an unpredictable manner is not in the best interest of hardworking Iowa taxpayers.

For the above reasons, I respectfully disapprove the designated items in accordance with Amendment IV of the Amendments of 1968 to the Constitution of the State of Iowa. All other items in Senate File 452 are hereby approved as of this date.

Sincerely,

TERRY E. BRANSTAD Governor